

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is filed in order to amend the claims to place the claims in better form for examination in accordance with United States practice. Please enter the Preliminary Amendment before calculating the filing fees.

I hereby state that the Substitute Specification filed concurrently herewith is in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.125. The Substitute Specification incorporates the originally filed specification and drawings, and contains no new matter. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.125(b)(2), a marked-up version of the Substitute Specification showing all of the changes (including the matter being added to and the matter being deleted from) is also enclosed.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.

Respectfully submitted,

/Raymond O. Linker, Jr./

Raymond O. Linker, Jr.
Registration No. 26,419

Customer No. 00826
Alston & Bird LLP
Bank of America Plaza
101 South Tryon Street, Suite 4000
Charlotte, NC 28280-4000
Tel Charlotte Office (704) 444-1000
CLT01/4837760v1

ELECTRONICALLY FILED USING THE EFS-WEB ELECTRONIC FILING SYSTEM OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE ON JUNE 23, 2006.